

**REMARKS**

By this paper, claims 1–23 are amended, and claims 24–30 are added. Accordingly, claims 1–30 are currently pending. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments herein prior to examination of the application and favorable consideration of the pending claims.

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediments to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

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